**Statement**

| S.No. | Crop | Disease | State |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Cotton | Leaf Curl virus disease | Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan |
| 2. | Sugarcane | Red rot | Tamil Nadu, U.P. |
| 3. | Paddy | | |
| | (a) Bacterial leaf blight | | Karnataka, Orissa,Haryana |
| | (b) Blast | | Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Orissa |
| | (c) Sheath Blight | | Karnataka, West Bengal |
| | (d) Rice Tungro Virus | | West Bengal |
| 4. | Mustard | | |
| | (a) White rust | | Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh |
| | (b) Alternalia blight | | Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh |
| 5. | Soybean | Rust | Madhya Pradesh |
| 6. | Groundnut | Tikka | Tamil Nadu, Gujarat |
| 7. | Potato | Late Blight | Uttar Pradesh |

**Cultivation of Pepper in Kerala**

3990. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government has asked for financial assistance to implement a scheme for developing cultivation of Pepper; and

(b) if so, what is the amount asked for and sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Government of Kerala submitted a Report on Technology Mission on Black Pepper to the Planning Commission for improving production, productivity and quality of balck pepper in the State, as a state activity, at a total cost of Rs. 221.62 crores for 7 years. The proposed technology mission envisages to pool available resources and efforts; and integrate the activities of all the State and Central institutions/agencies located in the State and involved in development of black pepper. As the Technology Mission on Black Pepper involve inter-governmental and inter-ministerial coordination, the Planning Commission has sought the views to the concerned departments. Final decision has not been taken with regard to financial implications of various participating agencies/departments.

Ministry of Agriculture has, however, been supporting the production programme for balck pepper and other spices under the Centrally Sponsored Integrated Programme for Development of Spices (IPDS). Under this programme, Government of India have released Rs. 1349.92 lakhs to Government of Kerala during 1997-98. Of this, Rs. 924.00 lakhs were earmarked for development of black pepper, which include most of the production components of the proposed Technology Mission. These programmes are being continued during 1998-99.

**Production of Vegetabls in Kerala**

3991. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a scheme from Kerala Government costing Rs. 2863 lakhs for producing vegetables on a large scale; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.